component, ... wherein said request intercepting component is arranged to search external sources to locate and provide to [a] server additional functionality if required for said server to support [a] request if said request is not supported." The Examiner asserts that Chow '175 discloses a Revision Manager that functions as an intermediary between a number of Mosaic browsers and contends that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Cobb '506 and Chow '175 to yield the claimed invention.

Applicants respectfully submit that neither Cobb '506 nor Chow '175 discloses or suggests a "request intercepting component . . ." as set forth in independent claim 1, or the "means for intercepting requests..." as set forth in independent claim 6. (Claims 1 and 6 are the two independent claims.) That is, neither Cobb '506 nor Chow '175 discloses or suggests a "request intercepting component . . . intercepts requests from said client component to a server component . . ." " . . . to search external sources to locate and provide to said server additional functionality . . . to support said request . . . " as set forth in independent claim 1. Further, neither Cobb '506 nor Chow '175 discloses or suggests "means for intercepting requests . . . to search external sources to locate . . . additional functionality . . . " as set forth in independent claim 6.

One feature of the invention is that when a request from a client is not supported, then, the computer system searches external sources in an effort to provide the support (functionality) so as to fulfill the request without returning an error to the client. The prior art does not even address this concept.

Rather, in contrast to the foregoing, Chow '175 is directed to a software component in a computer system for updating changes to a document that does not include searching other sources to locate and provide a server with additional functionality to support a request. Chow '175 states that "the client browser first communicates with the Revision Manager Daemon to

identify a document of interest for which the user would like updates to be sent automatically. The Revision Manager Polling Daemon periodically and spontaneously scans the root directory and any subdirectories of the cache to [determine if] there is at least one client which is due to be notified in case the document has been changed." Column 10, line 40, to column 11, line 3. Specifically, when a document has been modified, the Revision Manager Daemon saves the updated document into a cache file and for each interested party which is due for an update the Polling Daemon sends a notice to a client browser instructing the client browser to open and display the updated document. Chow '175, however, does not mention or suggest searching other sources for additional functionality to support a request. It appears that support for the update request already exists in Chow '175 and that additional functionality to support the update request is not required or provided.

Thus, Chow '175 is directed to a different invention and Applicants respectfully submit that Chow '175 does not provide the feature which the Office Action identifies as being in the independent claim but not being found in the primary reference to Cobb '506.
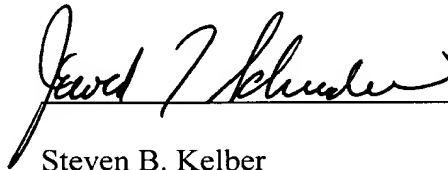
Accordingly, it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the cited prior art to yield the invention of any of the claims, and further that even if such a combination were obvious, the combination does not result in the invention of the any of the claims.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of all claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, then the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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